

C. ridibundus, but cannot be confounded with that or any other species, the broad black mark in the centre of its first two primaries, together with its larger size, serving at once to distinguish it. It was brought from Tibet by Major W. E. Hay, F.Z.S.

NOTES ON SOME NEW LIZARDS FROM SOUTH-EASTERN AFRICA,
WITH THE DESCRIPTIONS OF SEVERAL NEW SPECIES. BY
DR. J. E. GRAY, F.R.S., ETC.

Dr. John Kirk has most kindly sent to the British Museum a series of Lizards, Snakes, Insects, and other animals collected during the Zambesi expedition, under H. M. Consul the Rev. Dr. Livingstone. As the series of Lizards contains some species which do not appear to have been previously inserted in the 'Systematic Catalogue,' I forward an account of them to the Society.

GERRHOSAURUS ROBUSTUS, Peters, Monatsb. 1854, p. 618.

Hab. Tette (*Peters*; *Dr. Kirk*).

Dr. Peters gives the word *Caaiia* as the name of this Lizard; but, Dr. Kirk informs me, that word simply means "I do not know," which was probably what the native said when he asked him what they called it.

Common near Tette. The native told Dr. Kirk that it entered fowl-houses and killed the fowls, and that it bit very hard.

This species agrees in general appearance with the Lizard figured in Dr. Andrew Smith's 'Illustrations of the Zoology of South Africa,' under the name of *Gerrhosaurus Bibronii*; but the head of the Tette specimen is dark brown like the body, and is spotted with white; while in Dr. Smith's species the head is figured as uniform red-brown.

TEIRA ORNATA, n. s.

Blackish brown above (in spirits), with three narrow continuous streaks from the occiput to the base of the tail; head with small symmetrically curved white lines; sides of the head and body with numerous erect, more or less sinuous, white cross bands; chin and beneath white; tail pale reddish brown; ventral shields six-rowed; the throat with a slight fold of a single series of rather larger flat scales; under the ears, scales small, granular, smooth; of the tail elongate, keeled.

Hab. South-Eastern Africa (*Dr. Kirk*).

LYGODACTYLUS, n. g.

Toes free, all clawed, slender, and subcylindrical, with a series of small scales beneath at the base rather dilated ovate, and with two series of regular transverse plates, separated by a central groove beneath, at the end; the thumb (of the hind foot, at least) large. Head, body, and tail covered with uniform granular scales. Tail cylindrical, tapering; front of the vent granular. Labial shields large, similar in form, smaller behind, with a large shield in front of the chin.

This genus agrees with *Thecadactylus* in the form of the plate

beneath the toes ; but the toes are freer, and the bases of the toes are slender and subcylindrical. It differs from *Ædura* and *Strophura* in the plates under the toes being of a uniform size, and closely imbricate.

LYGODACTYLUS STRIGATUS, sp. nov.

Grey brown (in spirits) above ; crown vermiculated and marbled with black ; chin and beneath white, with a black streak commencing from the nostril and continued, enclosing the eye, on the side of the neck and front of the body ; tail pale brown ; scales on the back very minute, of the crown rather larger ; upper labial shields narrow ; the lower labial shields 7.7, the four in front of each side larger, becoming gradually smaller ; chin-shield six-sided, with two or three smaller shields on each side behind it.

Hab. South-Eastern Africa (*Dr. Kirk*).

Body and head $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch long ; tail 1 inch.

HOMODACTYLUS, n. g.

The toes free, broad, depressed, rather broader and rounded at the ends ; thumb broad like the toes ; all granular at the base, and with a single series of broad transverse plates beneath the dilated end, and without any free compressed terminal joints or claws. Back with large tubercles. Tail with rings of large tubercular scales. No pre-nal or femoral pores.

This genus is like *Phelsuma* in the form of the toes ; but the thumb is dilated at the end like the toes ; the back is tubercular, and the tail ringed and tubercular.

In the latter character it resembles *Tarentola*, which has the same habit of living in houses ; but it has no compressed joints on the middle toes of the hands and feet.

HOMODACTYLUS TURNERI, sp. nov.

Pale brown ; head blackish, tubercular ; back with sixteen longitudinal series of large, oblong, more or less keeled, black-brown tubercles, with a central series of much smaller similar tubercles down the vertebral line. The outer side of the limbs with similar tubercles, which are largest on the outer side of the fore legs and hinder side of the thighs and hind legs. Tail with rather distant rings of similar, but rather more acute tubercles, which make six longitudinal series on the base of the tail ; underside pale brown, with smooth subequal scales ; chin with three band-like shields in front.

Hab. South-Eastern Africa (*Dr. Kirk*). In the houses.

Var. or junior ?

Pale brown, with the tubercles paler and with some opaque-white tubercles intermixed. Head with four longitudinal brown streaks up the face to the forehead ; a brown streak on the upper margin of the temple, five unequal, rather irregular, dark bands across the back, and some more obscure paler bands across the tail. The toes appear scarcely so much dilated ; but in other respects they are like the two larger dark specimens.

I have named this species in honour of J. Aspinall Turner, Esq.,

M.P., who has done so much to make known the zoology of Western Africa, and formed such a fine collection of insects, especially of *Coleoptera*.

M. Auguste Duméril, in the 'Revue et Mag. de Zoologie' for 1851, describes and figures a Nocturnal Lizard, which had been received from Senegal, under the name of *Stenodactylus caudicinctus* (p. 478, t. 13).

M. A. Duméril observes that the slender-toed Geckotians are easily divided into two genera,—the *Gymnodactyles* having slender toes, which are smooth on the edge and with small central plates beneath; while the *Stenodactyles* have each side of the toes fringed with small teeth, and the lower surface granular.

I cannot consider this an accurate account of the typical *Stenodactyles*, or, at least, of the toes of the long-known species on which the genus *Stenodactylus* of Cuvier was established; for in that animal, as is well shown in Savigny's figure in the large work on Egypt, the underside of the toes is furnished with a series of plates as in the *Gymnodactyles*, but instead of the plate being entire on the edge, as in *Gymnodactylus*, it is deeply dentated on the outer margin, which caused me, in my 'Catalogue of Lizards in the British Museum,' to form a tribe for it in the family *Geckotidæ*, under the name *Stenodactylina*, which is thus characterized:—

“E. Toes cylindrical, tapering, toothed on the sides, lower surface with denticulated cross plates” (l. c. p. 177).

The Lizard from Senegal, which M. A. Duméril has referred to this genus, does not agree with this character. It, indeed, has the under surface of its cylindrical tapering toes covered with small acute scales, like the soles of its feet; and therefore I think that it must be formed into a distinct genus, which will form an anomalous group among the Night Lizards, or *Geckotidæ*, characterized by this peculiarity in the toes.

The Senegal Lizard cannot be properly referred to the genus *Stenodactylus* for another reason: the true *Stenodactyli* have the external appearance of the *Agamæ*, so much so that Geoffroy, on Savigny's plate, calls it *L'Agame ponctué*; and M. Audouin, in his 'Explanation of Savigny's Plates,' referred it to the genus *Trapelus*, under the name of *T. Savignii*; while the Senegal Lizard is a typical Gecko in all outward characters except the toes, so much so that when it was first seen it was thought to be an *Eublepharis*, erroneously said to come from Africa.

I propose to call this genus

PSILODACTYLUS, g. n.

Toes short, subcylindrical, tapering, covered with flat scales above, and, like the palms, with small rough granules beneath; thumb like toes, but shorter; all clawed. Tail cylindrical, covered with flat scales, annularly plaited, with a series of larger scales on the edge of the folds; beneath covered with subequal, flat, square scales. Pre-anal pores in a short angular line. Head depressed, covered with polygonal shields; labial shields low, broad; upper and lower rostral

shields large, similar. Edge of the eyelids reflexed, expanded; pupil large. Back with series of granular tubercles, those on the side formed of three subequal, larger scales. Chin, throat, and belly with smooth polygonal scales.

This genus is very similar to *Eublepharis* (*Hardwickii*) in external appearance and distribution of colour, but differs in the toes being very much shorter, thicker, and cylindrical and tapering, in the ends not being compressed and arched, but thick and cylindrical like the bases, and in the under surface of the toes being covered with small rough granules, like the under surface of the palms or soles of the feet. It differs also in the tubercles of the back being formed of groups of three scales; the central scales or tubercles on the middle of the back are larger than those on each side of it, but on the sides of the back the three scales are of nearly equal size.

In *Eublepharis* the toes are compressed at the end, and have a broad band-like scale beneath, and the tubercles of the back and sides are all formed of a single large scale.

PSILODACTYLUS CAUDICINCTUS.

Stenodactylus caudicinctus, A. Duméril, l. c.

In spirits, pale whitish; upper part of the head brown, edged with a black horseshoe-shaped band behind; cheek and side of the throat black, varied; back with two very broad irregular-edged black cross bands; tail dark, ringed.

Hab. W. Africa; Old Calabar?

EUPREPIS GULARIS, sp. nov.

Pale bronze-green brown (in spirit), with five narrow whitish streaks from the occiput continued on the base of the tail; crown of the head uniform brown; the central dorsal streak with a narrow black edge on each side, the two lateral streaks scarcely dark-edged, the upper one arising from the back edge of the eye, and the lower from the pale scales on the upper lip; the throat, the sides of the face, and neck dark brown, white-speckled. The front edge of the ears with a few very small thin scales.

Hab. South-Eastern Africa.

In the 'Catalogue of Lizards in the British Museum,' I regarded these specimens from South Africa as varieties of the *Euprepis quinquefasciatus* from Western Africa; but on reexamining these specimens with other specimens received since, and with the specimens brought home by Dr. Kirk, I am convinced that they are distinct.

EUPREPIS KIRKII, sp. nov.

Black-brown; back with three uniform well-marked yellow streaks, the middle one from the end of the nose to the base of the tail, the lateral ones from the eyebrows and continued on the side of the base of the tail, and tail-end blue. There is a streak like the others, but less distinct, on each side of the body, arising from the lips, continued across the ear-hole, and obscurely continued on the side of the base of the tail. The chin and underside of the body and base of the tail whitish; scales with three distinct keels; two series of scales between

each pale streak ; the ear-holes oblong, erect, open, with three very small indistinct prominences on the front edge, which are placed at unequal distances from each other.

Hab. Tette (*Dr. Kirk*).

This species resembles in external appearance the Blue-tailed Skink of North America ; but the central dorsal streak is not forked over the head. It is very like the *E. quinquefasciatus* of Western Africa ; but the dorsal streaks are not black-edged, and the central one is continued to the end of the nose. This is not the case in the latter species, which agrees with *E. Kirkii* in having only two series of scales between each white streak.

Named in honour of Dr. Kirk, its discoverer.

EUPREPIS GRANTII, sp. nov.

Pale bronzed brown, with a broad pale whitish streak on each side of the back, continued from the eyebrows to the lower part of the tail. Sides of the head and neck with a broad blackish streak, enclosing the eye and over the ears. The upper lip and slender streak under the eye opaque white. Scales three-keeled.

Hab. South-Eastern Africa (*Dr. Kirk*).

CHAMÆLEO DILEPIS, Gray, Cat. Lizards B.M. 266.

The white band on the sides is formed of round groups of white scales of the same size and form as the other scales on the sides. There is also a triangular white spot at the angles of the mouth.

Hab. South-Eastern Africa (*Dr. Kirk*).

Feb. 23, 1864.—John Gould, Esq., F.R.S., in the Chair.

NOTICE OF A NEW SPECIES OF ZORILLA.

BY DR. J. E. GRAY, F.R.S., ETC.

The British Museum, rather more than ten years ago, purchased of Mr. Argent the skin of a *Zorilla*, which differs from any others which I have seen. Unfortunately it was without any habitat, and I have been waiting in hopes of a second specimen occurring which would supply this deficiency.

It, however, appears so distinct that I think it now better to give a short account of it, that it may be recorded in the systematic catalogues.

ZORILLA ALBINUCHA,

Black ; back with four yellowish-white stripes, the two middle streaks short, the outer extending from the occiput to the base of the tail ; tail yellowish white ; forehead, crown, nape, and upper part of the ears pure white.

Hab. — ?

The hair soft and short ; the white hair of the crown and the yellowish hair of the dorsal stripes one-coloured to the base ; the hair of the tail rigid, more or less blackish at the base.

There are two or three small, black, unsymmetrically placed spots on the crown, and the central black streak of the back is extended a